

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the instant application. The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment indicates that the status of claims 15 and 16 is incorrect. Applicants respectfully disagree. Claims 15 and 16 are not "withdrawn" from consideration until the Restriction Requirement is made final or alternatively, until the Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement is entered. Therefore, in view of the amendments made in the Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement to claims 15 and 16, the proper status of the claims is exactly as Applicants indicate, "currently amended." Claims 15 and 16 may be properly identified as "withdrawn" at some point in the future.

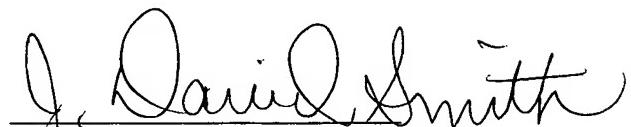
FEES

It is believed that no fees are necessary in connection with the present submission; however, should this be in error, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account No. 11-1153 for any underpayment or to credit any overage.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the claims are patentable and early notification as such is earnestly solicited. If any issues may be resolved by way of telephone, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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